STAINLAND-WITH-OLD-LINDLEY

URBAN SANITARY AUTHORITY.

ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH FOR 1895.

ARTHUR E. WOODCOCK,

L.R.C.P., L.R.C.S.

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ANNUAL REPORT FOR 1895.

To the Chairman and Councillors of Stainland-with-Old-Lindley Urban District Council.

GENTLEMEN,

I have again the honour of presenting to you my Annual Report of the Vital Statistics and Sanitary condition of your district for the year ending December 31st, 1895.

POPULATION.

When the Census was taken in 1891, the population was found to be 5002, and in 1881 it was 4933. Assuming that the rate of increase which took place between the last two Censuses is still maintained, I have estimated the population to the middle of the year 1895 to be about 5050.

AREA.—2273 acres.

INHABITED HOUSES.

1134. Being an increase of 4 during the past year.

The excess of Births over Deaths for the year 1895 has been 25, the actual increase in numbers being 17.

BIRTHS.

The number of Births registered in the district during the year has been 103, of whom 48 were Males and 55 Females, the number in 1894 being 86, viz: 46 Males and 40 Females, being an increase of 17. This gives a birth-rate of 20·6 as compared with 17·2 in 1894.

DEATHS.

The number of Deaths registered in 1895 has been 78, as against 77 in 1894, being an increase of 1. The death-rate in 1893 was one of the highest recorded for many years in your district, being 22·0, whereas the present death-rate for 1895 gives 15·6. This death-rate is a very satisfactory one, and compares favourably with that of neighbouring districts. The deaths occurring in children under 1 year of age, and above 65 years, give more than half of the total deaths.

The *Respiratory Death-rate* is equal to 2·8 per 1000, as compared with 4·2 per 1000 in the year 1894.

The *Zymotic Diseases* have been very few in number, the Zymotic death-rate being ·4, as against 2·4 in 1894, the difference being in great measure due to the absence of Whooping Cough this year.

Of *Infectious Diseases* there have been 13 reported, 5 being Small Pox, 2 Enteric Fever, 3 Scarlatina, 2 Erysipelas, and 1 Croup, as compared with 12 last year.

WHOOPING COUGH.

Very few cases of this disease have been found during the year, you will remember that the Board Schools had to be closed in the year 1894, on account of the prevalence of Whooping Cough.

ERYSIPELAS.

2 cases have been notified, as against 1 in the year 1894.

DIARRHŒA.

2 cases of Infantile Diarrhœa have proved fatal during the past year.

PUERPERAL FEVER.—None.

SMALL POX.

The outbreak of Small Pox (which received a special report) resulted indirectly in the death of a child, the death was attributed to some complication, the sequel to the Small Pox. The cases numbered 5, and all occurred in one house, they were removed to your Small Pox Hospital, and happily the disease appears to have stayed, no case or cases being the outcome of the above mentioned.

ENTERIC FEVER.

There have been two cases notified in the district, one in the Co-operative Buildings, the other at Denton Row. Both cases recovered completely, a free use of disinfectants being employed.

MEASLES.

This year we have seen very few cases of the disease, whereas in the year 1894 many cases were found and appeared to be complicated with Whooping Cough, the few scattered cases both of Measles and Whooping Cough appear to be the finishing up of the epidemic which prevailed in 1894. No death has taken place from either diseases.

SCARLET FEVER.

Three cases have been reported as compared with 2 last year, all 3 were in children and they recovered completely. The number in 1893 was 6, and in 1892 8, showing that the present is a satisfactory decline in number.

INFLUENZA.

There have been many cases of this serious complaint found especially in the spring time, when large numbers were attacked, but the disease did not assume the grave proportions that it hitherto has done, the chest complications being in most cases absent, or nearly so. At the close of the year the complaint was conspicuous by its absence.

MORTALITY AT GROUPS OF AGES.

The 78 deaths registered in 1895 are as follows:—

14	under 1 year of age.				
4	between the ages of	1	and	5.	
1	,,	,,	5	,,	15.
6	,,	,,	15	,,	25.
24	,,	,,	25	,,	65.
29	in persons upwards of 65 years of age.				

The *Infantile Mortality* has been 127 as compared with about the same number last year.

It is worth mentioning that as the present death-rate for 1895 is a very favourable one, it would have been less had not the Boiler Explosion at Beestones Mill taken place, when 5 persons lost their lives, leaving out the 5 we should have only had 73 deaths, which would have given the death-rate 14·6.

WATER SUPPLY.

The Coldacre Reservoir still maintains its reputation, and we have always an abundant supply of good water, with no signs of draught even in the hottest weather. I have from time to time found that the water taps in houses have been in a very faulty condition, and have called the detention of your Inspector, who has had the matter thoroughly looked into, and all leaking taps have been supplied with new washers. 32 houses have been supplied with water during the year 1895—the total number supplied being 600, with an average consumption of 8 gallons per house per day.

SANITARY CONDITION.

The Drainage has undergone considerable improvement, 214 yards of new Sewer 18″ and 15″ has been laid at Holywell Brook and Green. The Scavenging by contract still gives satisfaction, the annual cost being about £74 1s. 9d. 14 sinks have been disconnected, and 6 trapped. 18 tub-closets, and 13 dry ash places have been constructed in 1895.

Your Surveyor is ever ready to help me in my duties, and I always find him wishful to further the interest of your district.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

ARTHUR E. WOODCOCK,

L.R.C.P. L.R.C.S., &c.

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